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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 6235**

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**State of Washington**

**55th Legislature**

**1998 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Committee on Government Operations (originally sponsored by Senators Jacobsen and Kohl)

Read first time 02/06/98.

1 AN ACT Relating to community athletic facilities; and adding a new  
2 chapter to Title 43 RCW.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature recognizes that  
5 coordinated funding efforts are needed to maintain, develop, and  
6 improve the state's community outdoor athletic fields. Rapid  
7 population growth and increased urbanization have caused a decline in  
8 suitable outdoor fields for community athletic activities and has  
9 resulted in overcrowding and deterioration of existing surfaces. Lack  
10 of adequate community outdoor athletic fields directly affects the  
11 health and well-being of all citizens of the state, reduces the state's  
12 economic viability, and prevents Washington from maintaining and  
13 achieving the quality of life that it deserves. Therefore, it is the  
14 policy of the state and its agencies to maintain, develop, fund, and  
15 improve community outdoor athletic fields.

16 (2) In carrying out this policy, the legislature intends to  
17 promote the building of new community outdoor athletic fields and  
18 upgrade existing community outdoor athletic fields across Washington  
19 state. The purpose of this chapter is to create an advisory committee

1 to provide information and advice to the interagency committee for  
2 outdoor recreation in the distribution of the funds established in the  
3 voter-approved Seahawk stadium legislation, section 214, chapter 220,  
4 Laws of 1997, which provides funding projected to be approximately ten  
5 million dollars in fiscal year 1999, and create a grant program that  
6 applies after the program created in section 214, chapter 220, Laws of  
7 1997 ceases to receive funds.

8 (3) Further, after fiscal year 1999, the legislature intends to  
9 carry on a grant program created in this chapter to fund community  
10 outdoor athletic fields.

11 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) A community outdoor athletic fields  
12 advisory committee is established within the interagency committee for  
13 outdoor recreation. The committee consists of seven members, three  
14 members from the public at large, appointed by the governor, one member  
15 from each caucus in the house of representatives, appointed by the  
16 speaker of the house of representatives, and one member from each  
17 caucus in the senate, appointed by the president of the senate. The  
18 governor must use his or her best efforts to achieve a balance among  
19 the appointed members of the public at large based upon factors of  
20 geographic, racial, ethnic, and gender diversity, and with a sense and  
21 awareness of community outdoor athletic field needs.

22 (2) The terms of members shall commence on the date of appointment  
23 and shall be for three years, or until a successor is appointed, except  
24 in the case of appointments to fill vacancies, which shall be for the  
25 remainder of the unexpired term. However, the first members shall be  
26 appointed for terms as follows: One member of the public at large for  
27 one year; two members of the public at large for two years; one member  
28 of the house of representatives for one year; one member from the house  
29 of representatives for two years; one member of the senate for two  
30 years; and one member of the senate for three years. The governor  
31 shall appoint one of the members from the public at large to serve as  
32 chair of the council for the duration of the member's term.

33 (3) Members from the public at large shall be compensated in  
34 accordance with RCW 43.03.240 and shall be entitled to reimbursement  
35 individually for travel expenses incurred in performance of their  
36 duties as members of the council in accordance with RCW 43.03.050 and  
37 43.03.060.

1        NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 3.**    The community outdoor athletic fields  
2 advisory committee has the following duties:

3        (1) To prepare and update a strategic plan for the development,  
4 maintenance, and improvement of community outdoor athletic fields in  
5 the state. The plan must be prepared in coordination with the office  
6 of the governor and the office of financial management, with  
7 participation of federal, state, and local agencies having community  
8 outdoor athletic responsibilities, user groups, private sector  
9 interests, and the general public. The advisory committee shall submit  
10 the plan and its policy recommendations to the governor. The plan  
11 shall include, but is not limited to:

12        (a) An inventory of current community outdoor athletic fields;

13        (b) A forecast of demand for these fields;

14        (c) An identification and analysis of actual and potential funding  
15 sources;

16        (d) A process for broad scale information gathering;

17        (e) An assessment of the capabilities and constraints, both  
18 internal and external to state government, that affect the ability of  
19 the state to achieve the goals of the plan;

20        (f) An analysis of strategic options and decisions available to the  
21 state;

22        (g) An implementation strategy that is coordinated with executive  
23 policy and budget priorities; and

24        (h) The elements necessary to qualify for participation in or the  
25 receipt of aid from any federal program for community outdoor athletic  
26 fields;

27        (2) Notwithstanding other provisions of the law, to establish the  
28 eligibility criteria for cities, counties, and qualified nonprofit  
29 organizations in applying and qualifying for grants from the account  
30 created in section 4 of this act. The committee shall determine the  
31 eligibility requirements for a qualified nonprofit organization;

32        (3) To encourage and provide opportunities for interagency and  
33 regional coordination and cooperative efforts between public agencies  
34 and between public and private entities involved in the maintenance,  
35 development, and improvement of community outdoor athletic fields;

36        (4) To appoint technical and other committees as may be necessary  
37 to carry out the purposes of this chapter; and

1 (5) To create and maintain a repository for data, studies,  
2 research, and other information relating to community outdoor athletic  
3 fields in the state, and to encourage the exchange of this information.

4 The community outdoor athletic fields advisory committee may  
5 provide information to and advise the interagency committee for outdoor  
6 recreation on the disbursement of funds governed by section 214,  
7 chapter 220, Laws of 1997.

8 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The community outdoor athletic fields  
9 advisory committee shall manage a grant program designed to maintain,  
10 develop, fund, and improve community outdoor athletic fields. Grantees  
11 must match funds provided by the state, including approved in-kind  
12 resources. One percent of each year's state appropriation contribution  
13 total is dedicated to funding grant marketing promotion and grant  
14 writing support services, including a grant writer for purposes of this  
15 section. All grant projects must be approved and begun no later than  
16 January 1, 2006. The grants shall be awarded on a competitive  
17 application process. The community outdoor athletic fields grants may  
18 be used for acquiring, developing, equipping, maintaining, and  
19 improving community outdoor athletic fields. To the extent that funds  
20 are available, cities, counties, and qualified nonprofit organizations  
21 must meet eligibility criteria as established by the community outdoor  
22 athletic fields advisory committee. Grant funds are not intended for  
23 use other than those projects that may be approved as community outdoor  
24 athletic fields. Grants awarded in any one year need not be  
25 distributed in that year. The director of the interagency committee  
26 for outdoor recreation may expend up to one and one-half percent of the  
27 moneys appropriated for this section for administrative purposes.

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** There is created the community outdoor  
29 athletic fields account within the state treasury. The account is  
30 subject to allotment procedures under chapter 43.88 RCW, but an  
31 appropriation is not required for expenditures from the account. All  
32 receipts from appropriations made for the purposes of this chapter must  
33 be deposited into the account. Only the director of the interagency  
34 committee for outdoor recreation or the director's designee, or the  
35 community outdoor athletic fields advisory committee may authorize  
36 expenditures from the account. The community outdoor athletic fields

1 grants may be used for acquiring, developing, equipping, maintaining,  
2 and improving community outdoor athletic fields.

3 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** Sections 1 through 5 of this act constitute  
4 a new chapter in Title 43 RCW.

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** If any provision of this act or its  
6 application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the  
7 remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other  
8 persons or circumstances is not affected.

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